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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/726,172 Confirmation No.: 4133
Applicant: Roger H. Hamilton et al.
Filed: December 2, 2003
Art Unit: 3636
Examiner: Winnie S. Yip
Docket No.: 998_001CIP
Customer No.: 20874

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Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FIRST NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action, dated January 18, 2006, please amend the above identified patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.